

2007 Youth Risk Behavior Survey



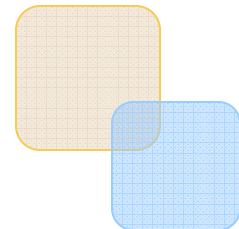
**Arizona Department of Education
Tom Horne
Superintendent of Public Instruction**



The Arizona Department of Education (ADE) has successfully administered the Arizona Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) in 2003, 2005 and 2007. This brochure presents highlights of the 2007 survey results.

The ADE extends a special thanks to the students, teachers, principals, and superintendents for their participation in the YRBS.

The contents of this publication were developed with funds allocated by the U.S. Department of Education under Title IV of the No Child Left Behind Act and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Cooperative Agreement U87/CCU300420. These contents do not necessarily represent the policy of the agencies, nor should endorsement by the federal government be assumed.



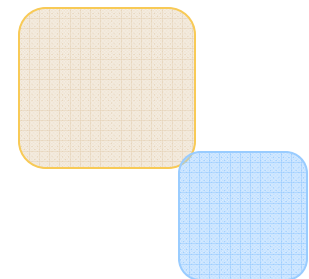
The YRBS assesses behaviors among youth that contribute to the leading causes of morbidity and mortality during adolescence and adulthood. The YRBS measures behaviors in the following six categories:

- Behaviors that result in unintentional injuries and violence
- Tobacco use
- Alcohol and other drug use
- Sexual behaviors that result in HIV infection, other sexually transmitted diseases, and unintended pregnancies
- Dietary behaviors
- Physical activity

The 2007 Arizona YRBS was completed by 3,095 students, grades 9 through 12, in 81 district and charter high schools during the 2007 spring semester. The school response rate of 98% combined with the student response rate of 84% resulted in an overall response rate of 82%. These results are representative of public high school students statewide in grades 9 through 12.

Students completed a 99-item questionnaire in their classroom. Survey procedures were implemented to protect the privacy of students by allowing for anonymous and voluntary participation. Parental permission procedures were followed prior to survey administration.

2007 Demographics	
Males	50.9%
Females	49.1%
9th Grade	27.5%
10th Grade	26.1%
11th Grade	23.2%
12th Grade	22.5%
Other Grade	0.6%
Black	3.3%
Hispanic/Latino	35.3%
Native American	6.5%
White	50.6%
All Other Races	1.9%
Multiple Races	2.4%



National data collected by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention indicated that 6.5% of high school students brought a weapon to school at least once during the 2005 school year³

It is a goal of the CDC Healthy People 2010 initiative to reduce by 1.6% the number of students that report carrying a weapon to school during the 2010 school year³

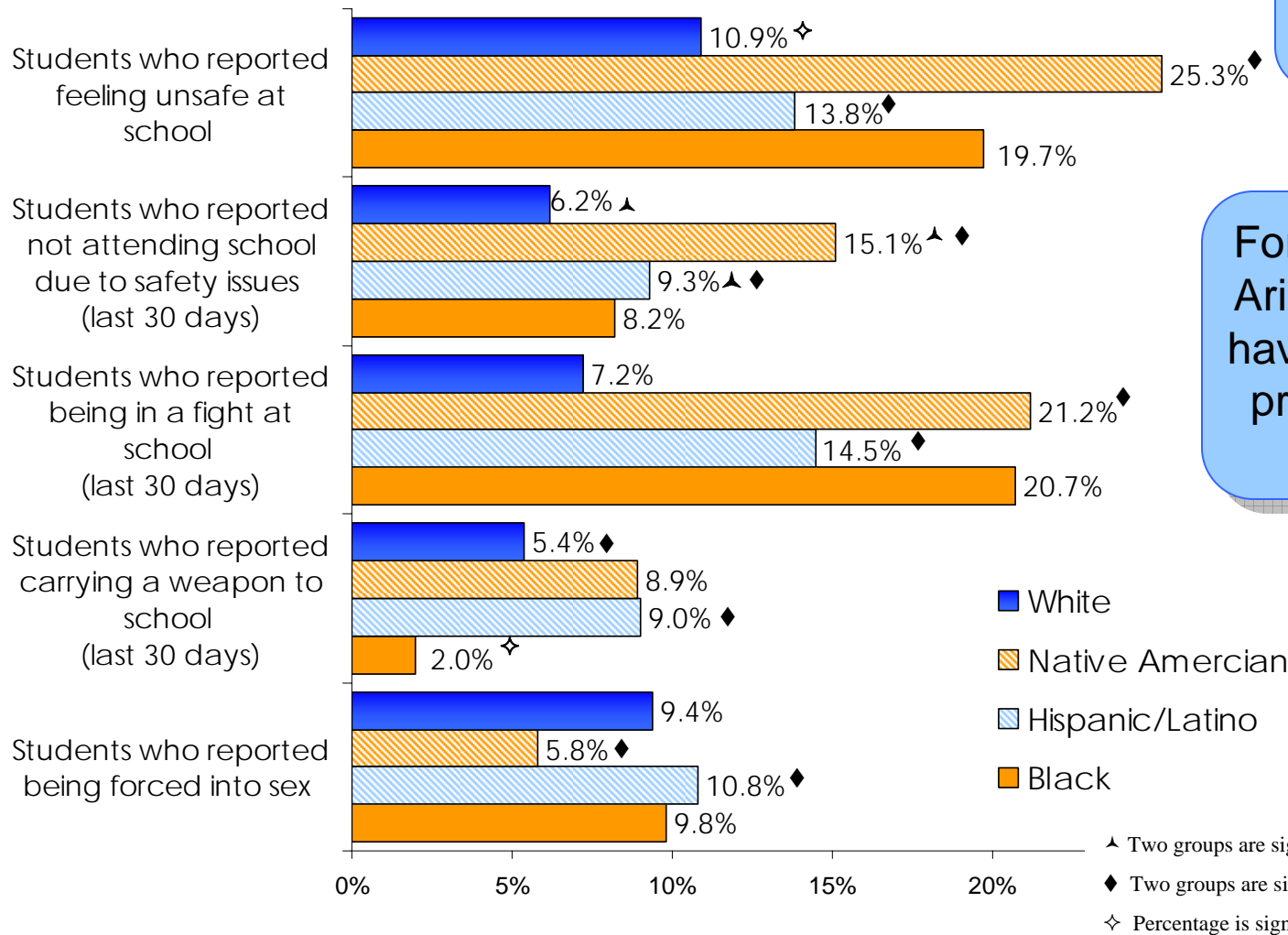
Percent of students who reported being bullied on school grounds		
2003	2005	2007
N/A	25.0%	26.7%
Percent of students who reported not attending school in the past 30 days due to safety issues		
2003	2005	2007
5.5%[✧]	7.3%	8.1%
Percent of students who reported carrying a weapon to school		
2003	2005	2007
5.5%[✧]	7.4%	7.0%

▲ Two groups are significantly different from one another

✧ Percentage is significantly different from all other groups

Violence and Safety

2007 school safety issues by race and ethnicity



13.8% of students reported feeling unsafe at school in 2007

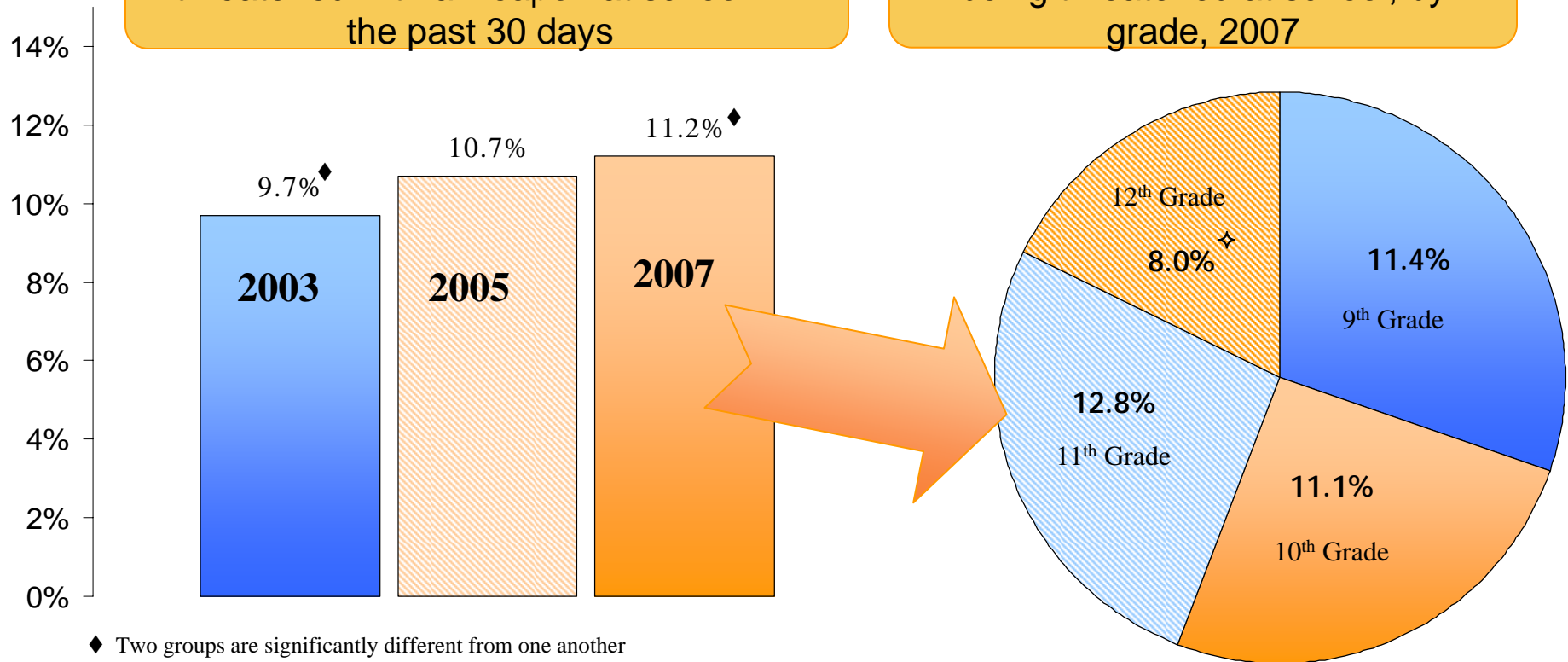
Forty-nine percent of Arizona high schools have participated in a program to prevent bullying⁴

Violence and Safety

Arizona students were significantly more likely than students throughout the nation to be threatened with a weapon on school property in 2005

Percent of students who reported being threatened with a weapon at school in the past 30 days

Percent of students who reported being threatened at school, by grade, 2007

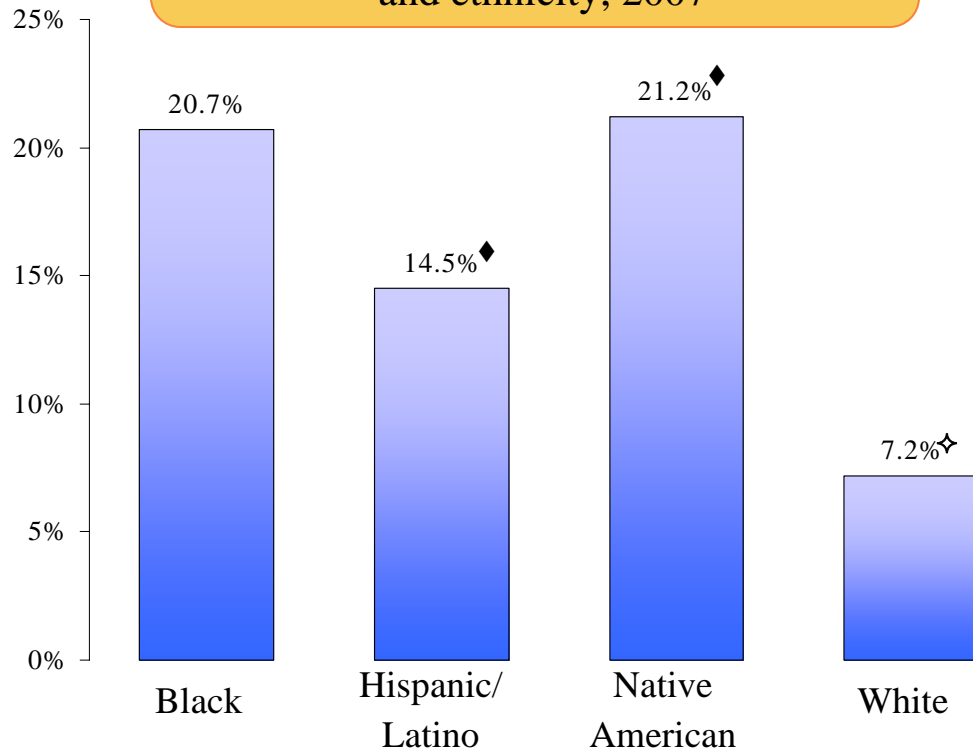


◆ Two groups are significantly different from one another

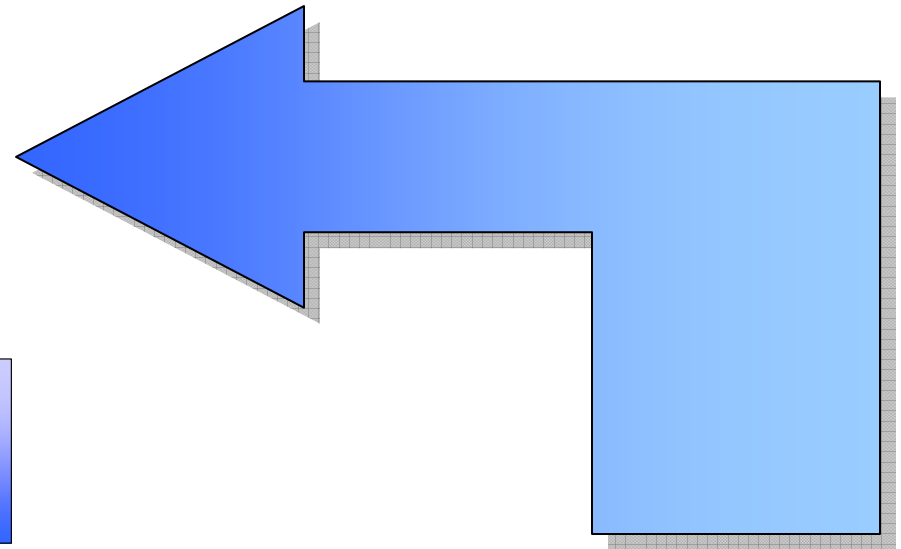
✧ Percentage is significantly different from all other groups

Violence and Safety

Percent of students who reported being in a fight on school property by race and ethnicity, 2007



◆ Two groups are significantly different from one another
 ☆ Percentage is significantly different from all other groups



Percent of students who reported being in a fight on school property

2003	2005	2007
11.4%	11.7%	11.3%

Violence and Safety

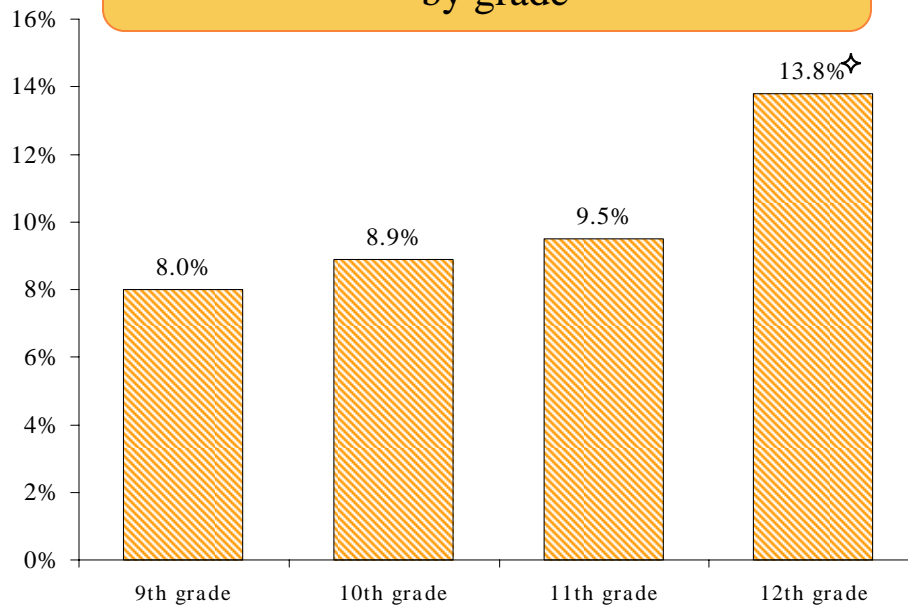
Females (13.2%) in 2007 were twice as likely as males (6.9%) to report being forced into sexual intercourse**

Percent of students who reported being physically forced to have sexual intercourse by race & ethnicity

Black	9.8% ♦
Hispanic/Latino	10.8% ♦
Native American	5.8%
White	9.4%

- ♦ Two groups are significantly different from one another
- ✧ Percentage is significantly different from all other groups

Students who have been forced into sex by grade



In 2007, 10% of students reported being physically forced to have sexual intercourse*

*This number was not significantly different from 2003 or 2005

** Differences were significant

Violence and Safety



Students over the past 12 months who reported being physically hurt intentionally by a boyfriend or girlfriend

2003	2005	2007
8.5% [♦]	10.5% [♦]	12.2% [✧]

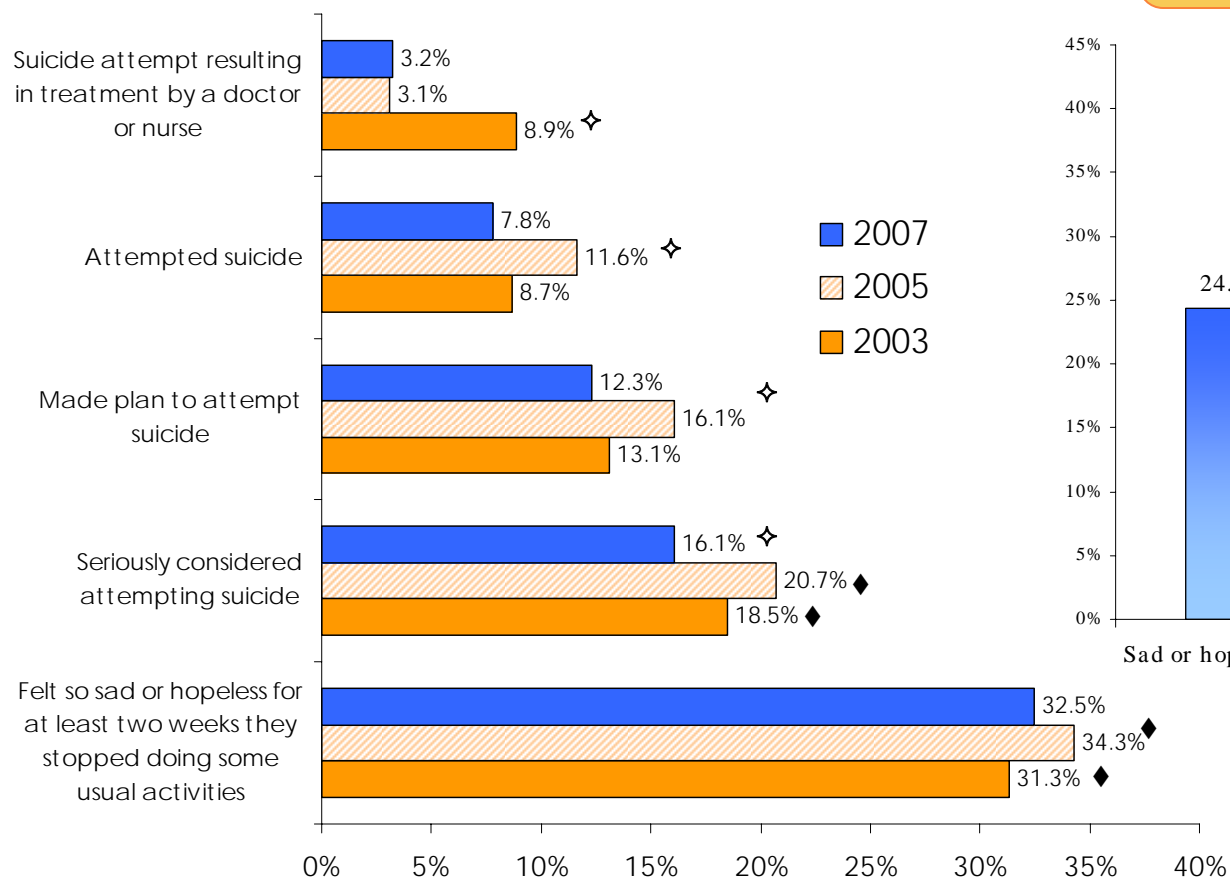
♦ Two groups are significantly different from one another

✧ Percentage is significantly different from all other groups

Often teenagers do not tell parents about abuse by a boyfriend or girlfriend because they fear losing newly earned privileges and freedoms¹

Violence and Safety

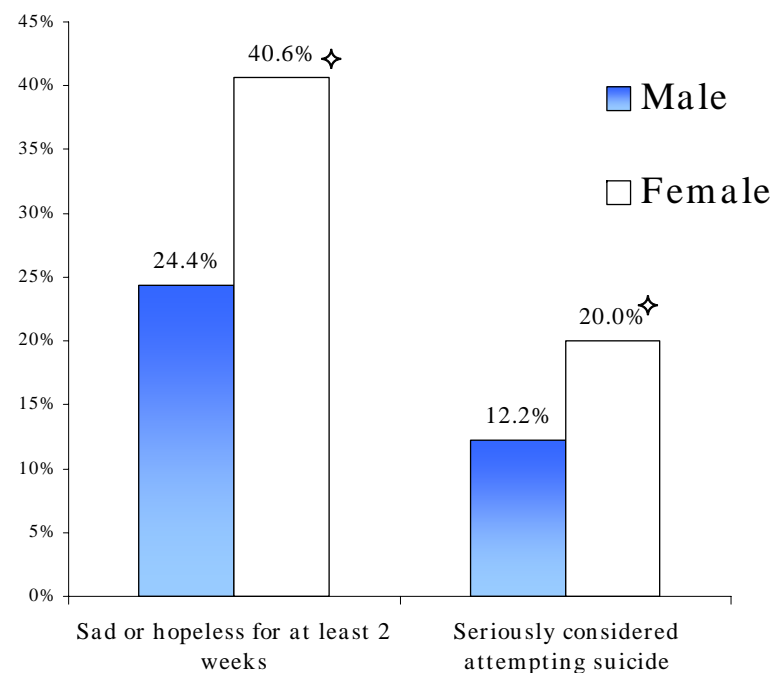
Suicide ideation and attempts in the past 3 years



♦ Two groups are significantly different from one another

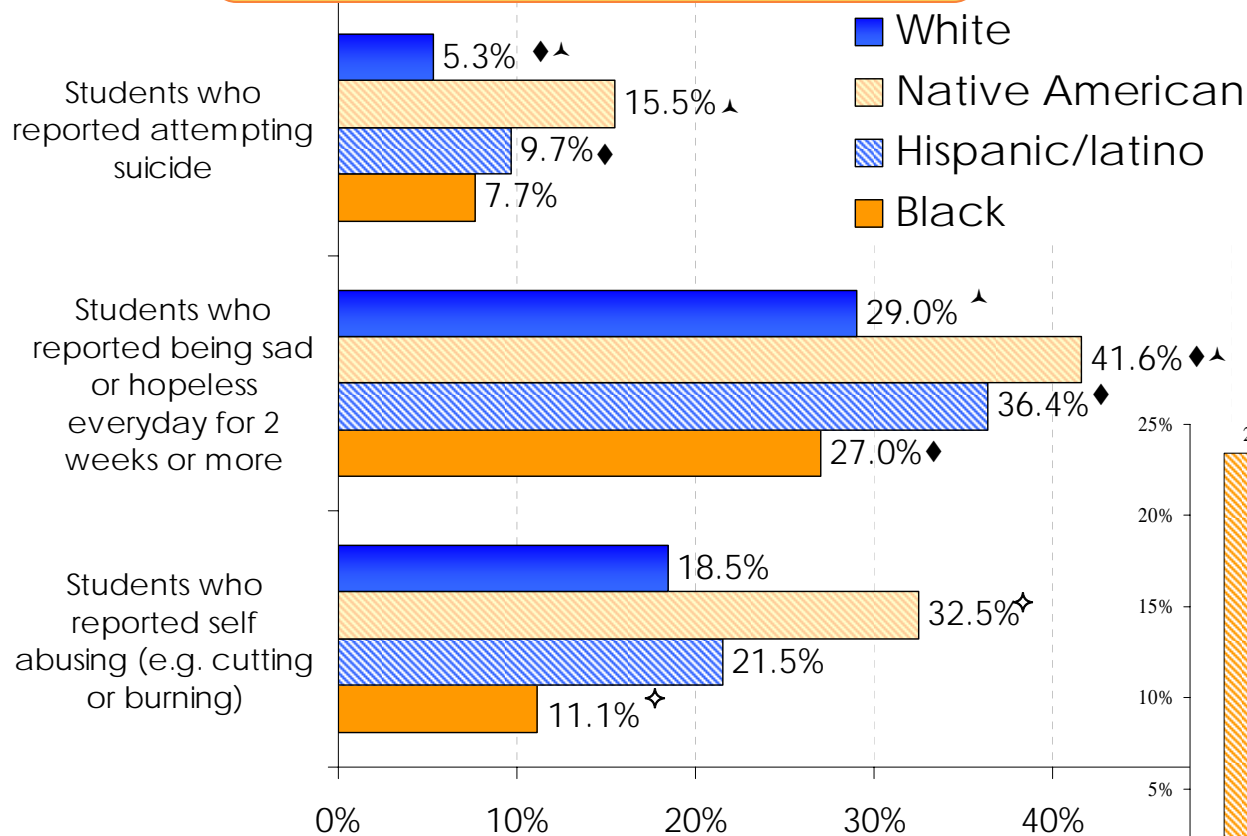
✧ Percentage is significantly different from other years

2007 – Suicidal Ideation and Depression



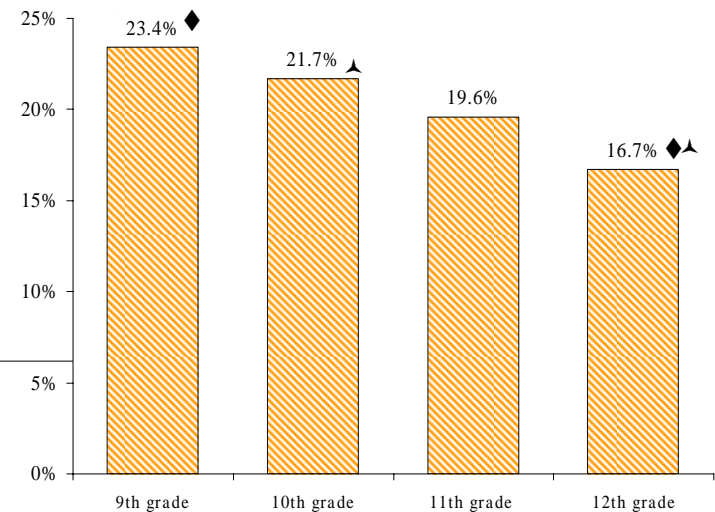
Suicide, Depression, and Self Abuse

2007 suicide and self abuse issues by race and ethnicity



- ▲ Two groups are significantly different from one another
- ◆ Two groups are significantly different from one another
- ◇ Percentage is significantly different from all other groups

Females (26.1%) were significantly more likely to report self abuse than males (15.8%)



2007 self abuse issues by grade

Suicide, Depression, and Self Abuse

Students who reported ever having sexual intercourse		
2003	2005	2007
46.1% ♦	42.8% ♦ ^	46.1% ^
Students who reported having sexual intercourse for the first time before age 13		
2003	2005	2007
5.1%	5.7%	5.7%

Despite the ongoing need to provide students with medically accurate information, fewer schools are offering sexual health instruction in their curriculum

Just over half (56%) of Arizona schools require health education for grades 6-12⁴

Students who reported that their first sexual partner was 3 or more years older		
2003	2005	2007
N/A	11.5%	12.0%
Students who reported having four or more sexual partners		
2003	2005	2007
13.0%	13.5%	15.4% ✧

^ Two groups are significantly different from one another

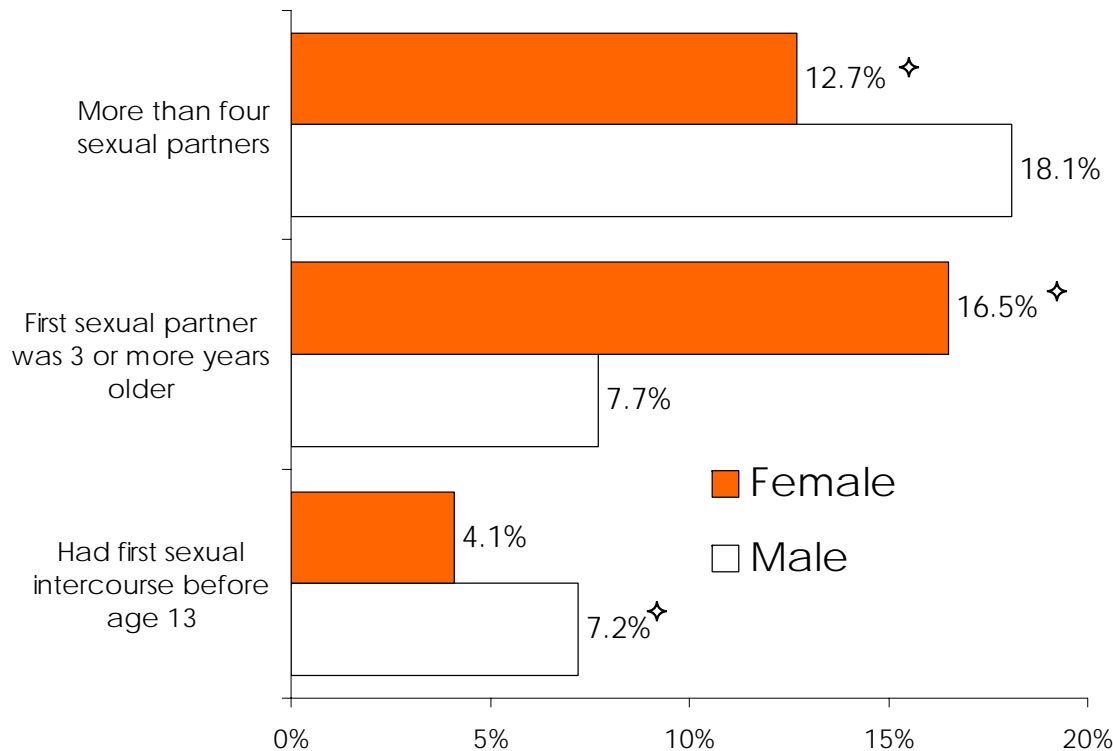
♦ Two groups are significantly different from one another

✧ Percentage is significantly different from all other groups

Sexual Activity and Risks

2007 sexual history by gender

Arizona has the 5th highest
teen birth rate in the
nation⁵



✧ Percentage is significantly different from all other groups

Considering that Arizona does not have a law that requires schools to have sexuality, sexually transmitted disease, and STD/HIV education, the need for age-appropriate comprehensive sexuality education is both clear and compelling

Sexual Activity and Risks

Students who reported using condoms during sexual intercourse in the last 3 months		
2003	2005	2007
56.7%	55.1%	55.5%
Students who reported using birth control pills to prevent pregnancy in the last 3 months		
2003	2005	2007
17.3% ♦	15.3%	13.9% ♦

▲ Two groups are significantly different from one another

♦ Two groups are significantly different from one another

Males (35.2%) reported using drugs or alcohol before their last act of intercourse at significantly higher rates than females (20.4%) in 2007

Twenty-one percent of schools that require a health education course taught how to use a condom correctly⁴

Students who used alcohol or drugs before the last act of sexual intercourse		
2003	2005	2007
31.3% ♦	23.4% ♦▲	27.6% ▲

Males (64.8%) reported using condoms at significantly higher rates than females (46.8%) in 2007

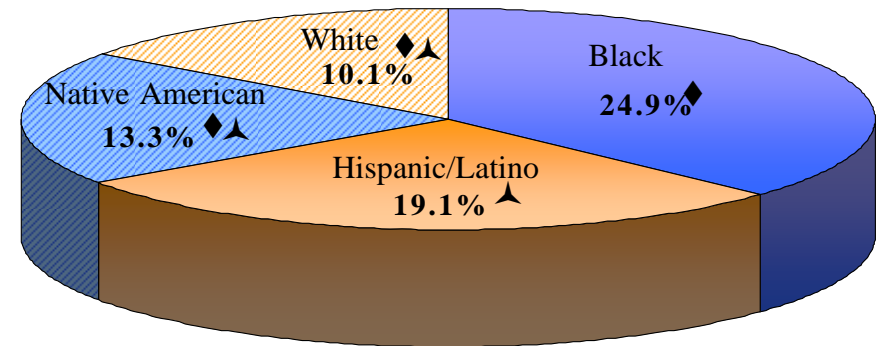
Sexual Activity and Risks

When asked to describe their weight, females (33.7%) were significantly more likely than males (24.0%) to describe their body as being overweight

Males (30.7%) were significantly more likely than females (20.7%) to be overweight or at risk for being overweight

Students at risk for being overweight		
2003	2005	2007
13.8%	13.6%	14.2%
Students who are overweight		
2003	2005	2007
11.2%	11.9%	11.7%
Students who describe their body as being overweight		
2003	2005	2007
32.0%	32.0%	28.8% ✧

2007 Students who are overweight by race



▲ Groups are significantly different from one another

◆ Groups are significantly different from one another

✧ Percentage is significantly different from all other groups

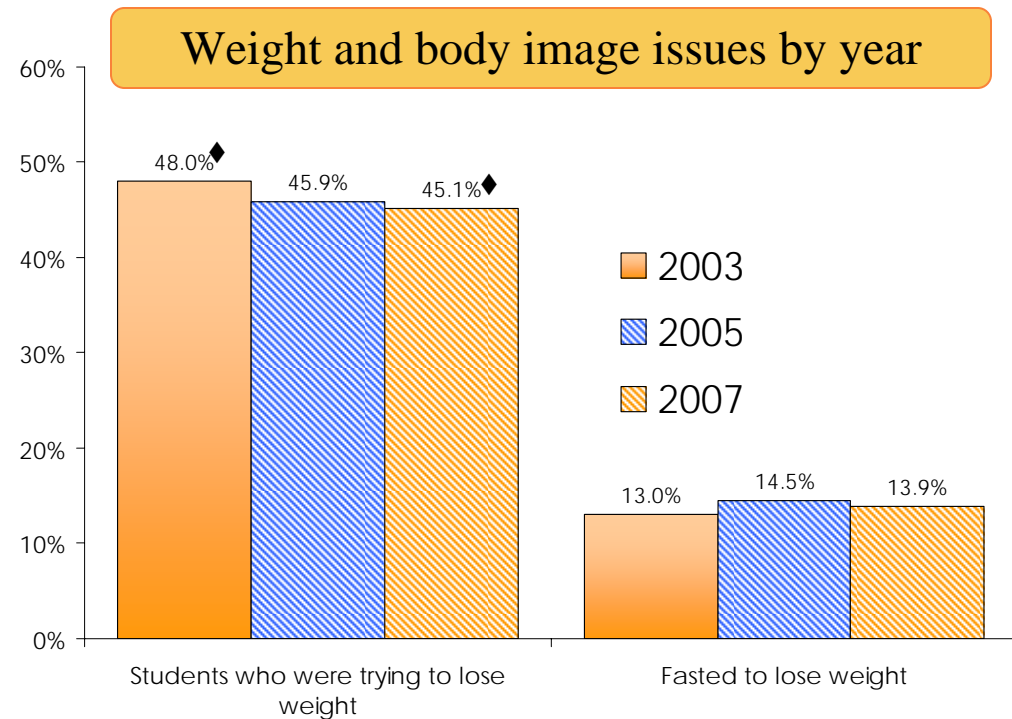
Weight, Health, and Body Image

Methods used by high school students to lose weight by gender	Females	Males
Exercised to lose weight or keep from gaining weight	67.5% ✧	55.1%
Vomited or used laxatives to lose weight	8.6% ✧	5.3%
Fasted to lose weight	19.0% ✧	8.9%
Took diet pills, powders, or liquids without a doctor's advise to lose weight or keep from gaining weight	8.4% ✧	5.1%

✧ Percentage is significantly different from all other groups

◆ Groups are significantly different from one another

A significantly higher number of females (58.9%) than males (31.9%) reported that they were actively trying to lose weight



Weight, Health, and Body Image

Students who reported eating five or more servings per day of fruits and vegetables during the past 7 days		
2003	2005	2007
20.9%[✧]	15.2%[◆]	17.1%[◆]
Students who reported drinking three or more glasses of milk per day during the past 7 days		
2003	2005	2007
15.0%[◆]	N/A	10.2%[◆]
Students who reported drinking regular soda one or more times per day during the past 7 days		
2003	2005	2007
N/A	29.9%	29.5%

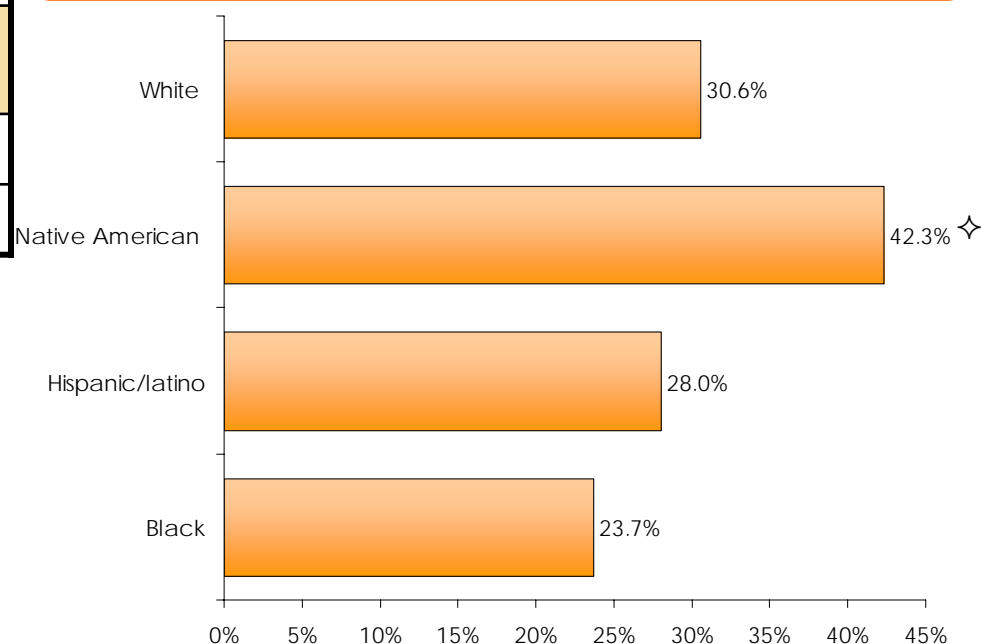
Of the schools that teach a health education course in 6th-12th grades, ninety-seven percent teach the benefits of healthy eating⁴

Students who reported being told by a doctor or nurse that they have diabetes		
2003	2005	2007
N/A	2.0%	5.2%[✧]

✧ Percentage is significantly different from all other groups

◆ Groups are significantly different from one another

2007 consumption of regular soda one or more times per day by ethnicity



Weight, Health, and Body Image

Students who reported engaging in physical activity for 20 minutes or more on 3 or more of the past 7 days		
2003	2005	2007
65.2%[✧]	62.5%	61.8%
Students who reported attending PE class one or more days during an average school week		
2003	2005	2007
36.5%[✧]	42.9%	40.7%
Students who reported watching television 3 or more hours per day during an average school week		
2003	2005	2007
36.9%[✧]	32.8%	28.2%
Students who reported using the computer for 3 or more hours per day for non school use on an average day		
2003	2005	2007
N/A	18.6%	21.4%[✧]

Over three-quarters (78%) of Arizona high schools sell salty snacks not low in fat such as potato chips in school vending machines or snack bars⁴

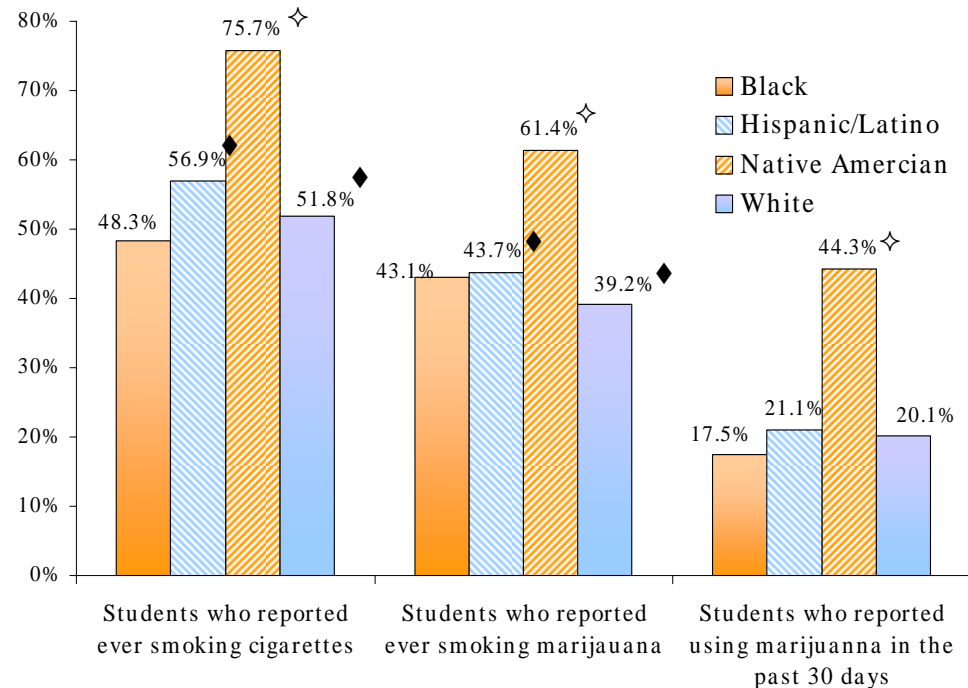
Weight, Health, and Body Image

Students who reported having ever tried smoking cigarettes in their lifetime		
2003	2005	2007
60.9% ✧	58.2% ◆	54.8% ◆
Students who reported having ever tried smoking marijuana		
2003	2005	2007
47.7% ✧	42.0%	42.3%
Students who reported using marijuana in the past 30 days		
2003	2005	2007
25.6% ✧	20.0%	22.0%

- ▲ Two groups are significantly different from one another
 ◆ Two groups are significantly different from one another
 ✧ Percentage is significantly different from all other groups

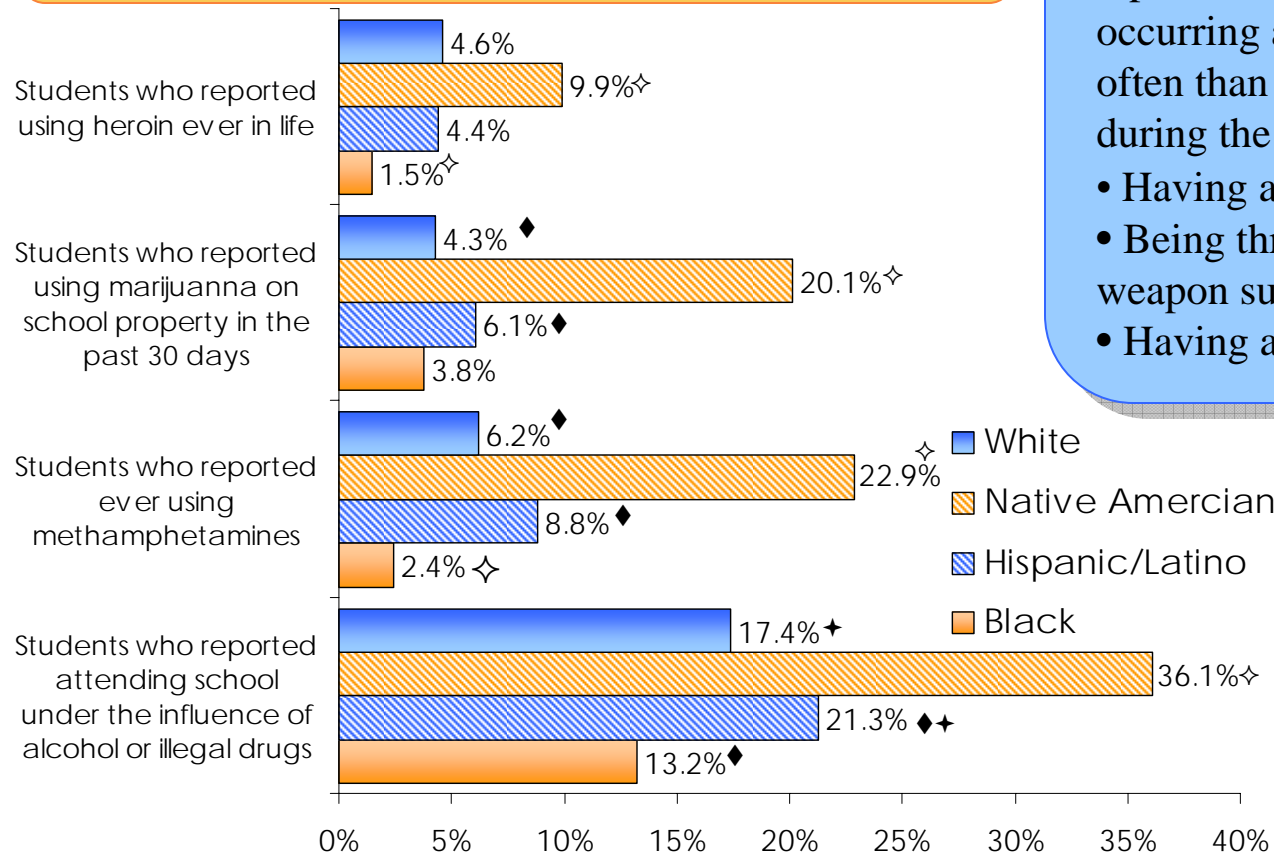
Ninety-six percent of Arizona high schools have adopted a policy prohibiting tobacco use⁴

2007 tobacco and marijuana use by race and ethnicity



Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drug Use

2007 drug results by race and ethnicity



- ▲ Two groups are significantly different from one another
- ♦ Two groups are significantly different from one another
- * Percentage is significantly different from all other groups

Public high school students in Arizona reported the following behaviors as occurring at school significantly more often than students throughout the nation during the 2005 school year:

- Having access to illegal drugs
- Being threatened or injured with a weapon such as a gun, knife or club
- Having at least one drink of alcohol

In 2007, 20.4% of students reported attending school under the influence of alcohol or an illegal drug

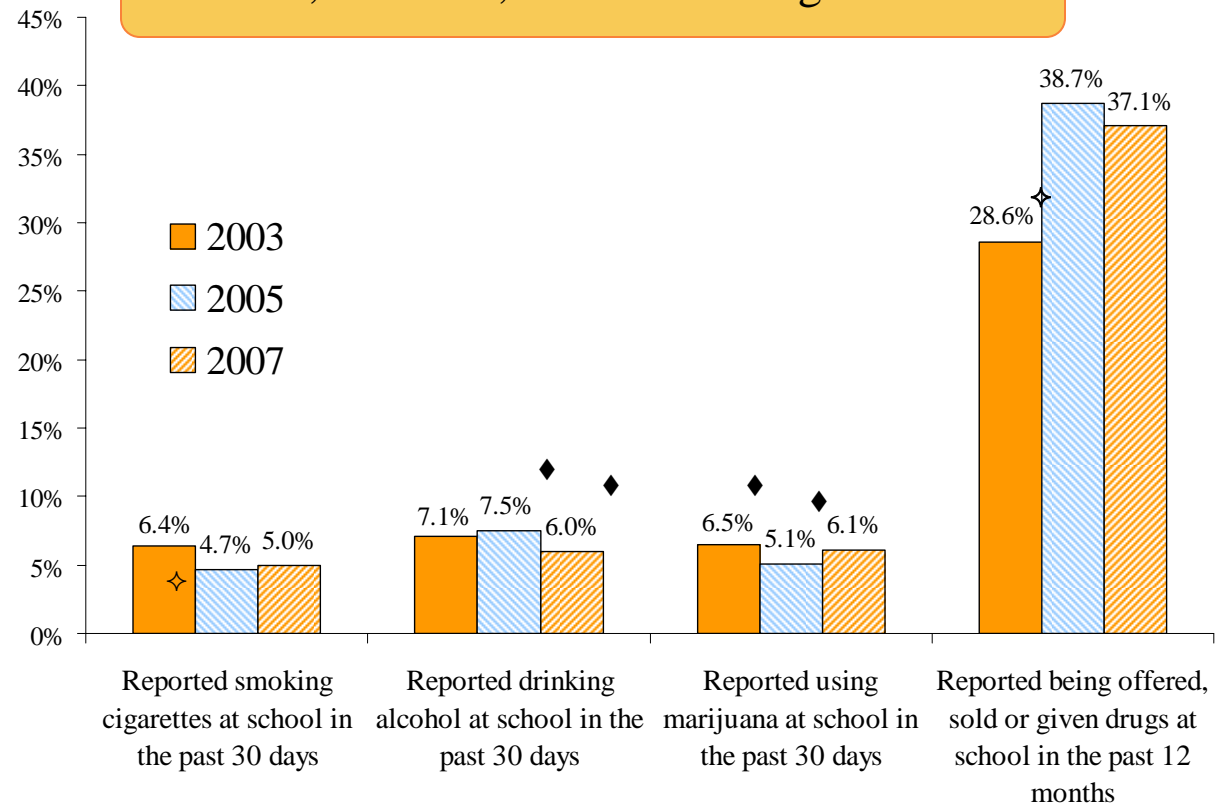
Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drug Use

In 2007, 23.5% of students reported having their first alcoholic drink before the age of 13. This is significantly lower than in 2005 (26.7%) and 2003 (30.4%)

In 2007, 6% of students reported consuming alcohol at school in the past 30 days.

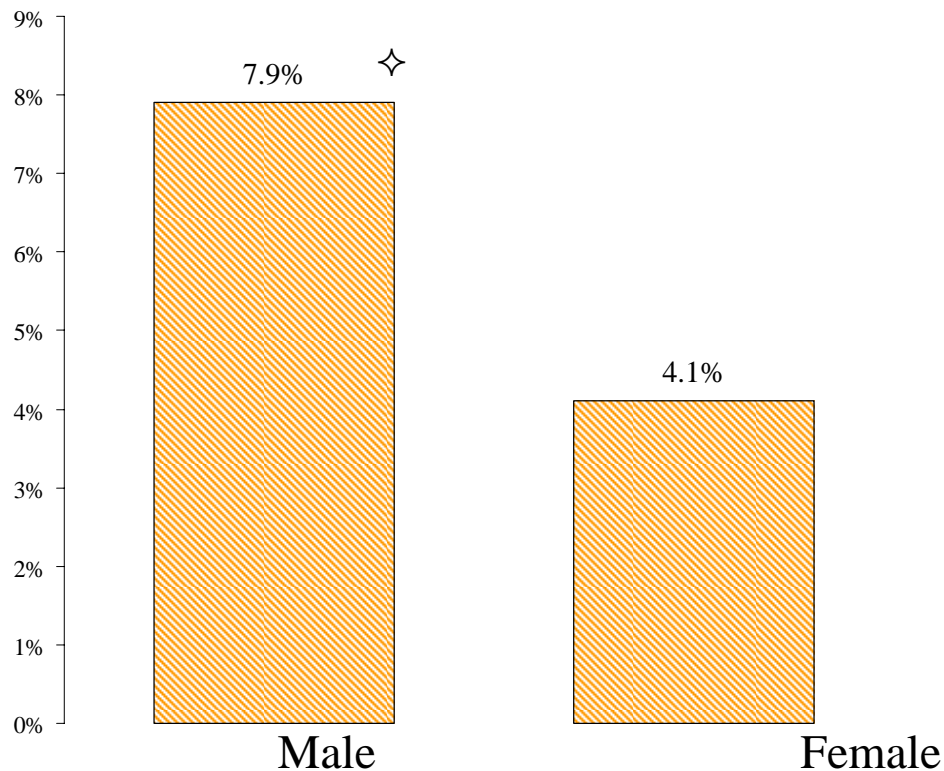
- ▲ Two groups are significantly different from one another
- ◆ Two groups are significantly different from one another
- ◇ Percentage is significantly different from all other groups

Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drugs at School



Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drug Use

Students who reported consuming alcohol at school in the past 30 days by gender



Students who reported using methamphetamines one or more times in the past 30 days		
2003	2005	2007
NA	4.8%	4.6%
Students who have used methamphetamines one or more times during their lifetime		
2003	2005	2007
10.6% ♦	8.8%	8.6%
Students who reported using marijuana on school property over the past 30 days		
2003	2005	2007
6.5% ♦	5.1% ♦	6.1%
Students who reported trying or using heroin at some time		
2003	2005	2007
3.3% ♦	4.3%	5.2%

- ▲ Two groups are significantly different from one another
- ◆ Two groups are significantly different from one another
- ◇ Percentage is significantly different from all other groups

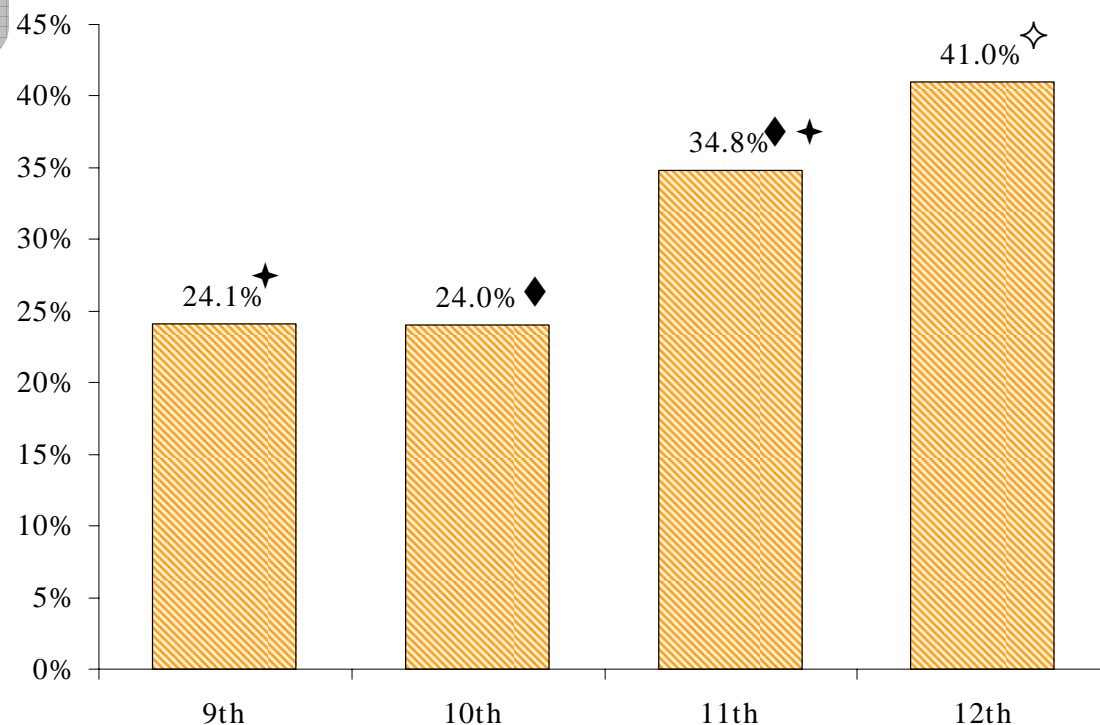
Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drug Use

Thirty percent of students in 2007 reported drinking 5 or more drinks in one setting

In 2000, 8.9% of adolescents in the United States reported using inhalants at some time in their lives²

In 2007, 14.6% of adolescents in the United States reported using inhalants to get high

Students that reported binge drinking (5 or more drinks of alcohol) on one or more of the past 30 days by grade level, 2007



- ▲ Two groups are significantly different from one another
- ◆ Two groups are significantly different from one another
- ◇ Percentage is significantly different from all other groups

Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drug Use

Do Students Tell the Truth on the YRBS?

Survey Environment – Survey administration procedures are designed to protect the confidentiality of schools and anonymity of students, e.g., students do not include any identifying information on the survey, proctor and teacher do not walk around the classroom during survey administration, etc.

Edit Checks within Survey Design – More than 100 edit checks are conducted on each YRBS data set to remove inconsistent responses, e.g., a student who reports doing a behavior within the past 30-days but never in his life, a student who reports being 2 feet tall and 300 lbs, etc.

Logic within Groups of Questions – Questions on similar topics produce logical responses that fit together in a consistent manner, e.g., fewer students will have attempted suicide than those who have thought about attempting suicide, etc.

Subgroup Differences – Subgroup differences are logical and remain generally consistent over time, e.g., seniors are more likely to have performed a risk behavior than freshmen.

Health Data Context – Students' self-reported risk behaviors are consistent with health research and Arizona health statistics, e.g., more females than males experience forced sexual intercourse, adolescents comprise a sizeable amount of arrests for possession of illegal drugs within Arizona, etc.

Psychometric Studies – Using the YRBS instrument, researchers have conducted psychometric studies, e.g., focus groups with diverse student populations, two-week follow-up surveys to examine consistency in reporting, etc.

Primary Source:

2007 Arizona Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) Results, Arizona Department of Education: Phoenix, AZ, 2007

Additional Sources:

1. Family Violence Law Center (FVLC) (2003). *Relationship Abuse Prevention; Unique Aspects of Teen Abusive Relationships* Retrieved January 17, 2008 from: http://www.fvlc.org/rap_infoforschools.html#violence
2. Adolescent Substance Abuse Knowledge Base (2007). *National Drug Statistics Summary* Retrieved January 17, 2008 from: <http://www.adolescent-substance-abuse.com/national-drug-statistics.html>
3. CDC Healthy People 2010 (2007). *Data 2010 the Healthy People 2010 Database* Retrieved January 17, 2008 from: <http://wonder.cdc.gov/DATA2010/focraceg.htm>
4. Arizona Department of Education (2006). *2004 Arizona School Health Education Profile (SHEP) Principal Results* Retrieved January 17, 2008 from: <http://www.azed.gov/sa/health/matrix/azshep/2006SHEPSummaryTables-Principals.pdf>
5. Teen Pregnancy and Birth Rates in the United States (2007). *Teen Birth Rate* Retrieved March 4, 2008 from: <http://www.teenpregnancy.org/america/statisticsDisplay.asp?ID=4&sID=44&sort=rank>

References